GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3228
ANSWERED ON:05.08.2002
REVIEW OF CADP
RAMSHETH THAKUR

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have reviewed the Command Area Development Programme;

(b) if so, the findings thereof;

(c) the reasons for poor performance of the said Programme, and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to remove the shortcoming's noticed in the implementation of Command Area Development Programme?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SMT. BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY)

(a) to (d) The working Group of the Planning Commission for X Plan has reviewed the Command Area Development Programme. The suggestions made by the Working Group to overcome the shortcomings identified by it are given in the Annexure. During the IX Plan the performance of the core components of the Programme namely, field channels, field drains and land levelling has been 186.3% 330% and 90% respectively. The performance under warabandi was, however, 52.6% due to slow pace of formation of Water Users' Associations for want of amendments in the existing irrigation acts by the States. Keeping in view the recommendations of the Working Group of the Planning Commission, the Ministry of Water Resoruces has initiated steps to restructure the Command Area Development Programme during X Plan.

Annexure

Annexure referred to in answer part (a) to (d) of the Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 3228 due for 5.8.2002

Suggestions made by the Working Group of Planning Commission to overcome the shortcomings in the Command Area Development Programme

(i) To tackle the problem of unreliable availability of water at the Government outlet on account of system deficiency, correction of system/rehabilitation may be brought under budgetary provision.

(ii) Problem of letting out surplus water through field drains was experienced on account of non-availability/linkage of collector / intermediate / main drains and proper outfall which need to be overcome by making necessary budgetary provision.

(iii) The twin menace of water logging and salinisation of irrigated land can't be tackled in the present piecemeal manner, which should be done away with. Pilot schemes to include demonstrative conjunctive use should be undertaken for selected irrigation projects entirely and not in pieces.

(iv) Lack of Participatory Irrigation Management (PIM): Anew component of PIM be included under the Command Area Development Programme. For making it successful, correction of system deficiency may be linked with the programme. Water Users' Associations (WUA) should be helped by providing legalbackup, technical, financial support etc. For organizing WUAs, services of NGOs and WALMIs should be utilized fully.

(v) Minor irrigation projects having CCA between 500 ha. to 2000 ha. be included under the programme, where Major & Medium projects are not available.

(vi) Cent per cent central assistance may be provided for dissemination of technical know-how among farmers for "Efficient Water Management" which is lacking presently. Adequate funds may be provided under the central sector.

(vii) Liberal subsidy to farmers be provided on the pattern of Ministry of Agriculture for Ground Water development and studies on conjunctive use of surface and ground water. Sprinkler and drip irrigation should be taken up for integrated use of ground and surface water. Funds for such studies could be made available from Research and Development Head of Command Area Development

Programme. The conjunctive use study should be taken up to start with smaller basins.

(viii) Realistic revision in the unit cost of different CAD activities be made considering cost escalation.